

§ 250.615 Blowout prevention equipment.

(a) The BOP system, system components and related well-control equipment shall be designed, used, maintained, and tested in a manner necessary to assure well control in foreseeable conditions and circumstances, including subfreezing conditions. The working pressure rating of the BOP system and system components shall exceed the expected surface pressure to which they may be subjected. If the expected surface pressure exceeds the rated working pressure of the annular preventer, the lessee shall submit with Form MMS-124, requesting approval of the well-workover operation, a well-control procedure that indicates how the annular preventer will be utilized, and the pressure limitations that will be applied during each mode of pressure control.

(b) The minimum BOP system for well-workover operations with the tree removed shall include of the following:

(1) Three preventers, when the expected surface pressure is less than 5,000 psi, consisting of an annular preventer, one preventer equipped with pipe rams, and one preventer equipped with blind or blind-shear rams.

(2) Four preventers, when the expected surface pressure is 5,000 psi or greater, or for multiple tubing strings consisting of an annular preventer, two preventers equipped with pipe rams, and one preventer equipped with blind or blind-shear rams. When dual tubing strings are being handled simultaneously, dual pipe rams shall be installed on one of the pipe-ram preventers.

(3) When a tapered drill string is used, the minimum BOP system shall include either of the following:

(i) Four preventers, when the expected surface pressure is less than 5,000 psi, consisting of an annular preventer, two sets of pipe rams, one capable of sealing around the larger size drill string, and one capable of sealing around the smaller size drill string (one set of variable bore rams may be substituted for the two sets of pipe rams), and one preventer equipped with blind or blind-shear rams; or

(ii) Five preventers, when the expected surface pressure is 5,000 psi or

greater, consisting of an annular preventer, two sets of pipe rams capable of sealing around the larger size drill string, one set of pipe rams capable of sealing around the smaller size drill string (one set of variable bore rams may be substituted for one set of pipe rams capable of sealing around the larger size drill string and the set of pipe rams capable of sealing around the smaller size drill string), and a preventer equipped with blind or blind-shear rams.

(c) The BOP systems for well-workover operations with the tree removed shall be equipped with the following:

(1) A hydraulic-actuating system that provides sufficient accumulator capacity to supply 1.5 times the volume necessary to close all BOP equipment units with a minimum pressure of 200 psi above the precharge pressure without assistance from a charging system. No later than December 1, 1988, accumulator regulators supplied by rig air and without a secondary source of pneumatic supply, shall be equipped with manual overrides, or alternately, other devices provided to ensure capability of hydraulic operations if rig air is lost;

(2) A secondary power source, independent from the primary power source, with sufficient capacity to close all BOP system components and hold them closed;

(3) Locking devices for the pipe-ram preventers;

(4) At least one remote BOP-control station and one BOP-control station on the rig floor; and

(5) A choke line and a kill line each equipped with two full opening valves and a choke manifold. At least one of the valves on the choke-line shall be remotely controlled. At least one of the valves on the kill line shall be remotely controlled, except that a check valve on the kill line in lieu of the remotely controlled valve may be installed provided two readily accessible manual valves are in place and the check valve is placed between the manual valves and the pump. This equipment shall have a pressure rating at least equivalent to the ram preventers.

(d) The minimum BOP-system components for well-workover operations

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with the tree in place and performed through the wellhead inside of conventional tubing using small-diameter jointed pipe (usually $\frac{3}{4}$ inch to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch) as a work string, i.e., small-tubing operations, shall include the following:

- (1) Two sets of pipe rams, and
- (2) One set of blind rams.

(e) The minimum BOP-system components for well-workover operations with the tree in place and performed by manipulating spooled, nonjointed pipe through the wellhead, i.e., coiled-tubing operations, shall include the following:

- (1) One set of pipe rams hydraulically operated,
- (2) One two-way slip assembly hydraulically operated,
- (3) One pipe-cutter assembly hydraulically operated,
- (4) One set of blind rams hydraulically operated,
- (5) One pipe-stripper assembly, and
- (6) One spool with side outlets.

(f) The minimum BOP-system components for well-workover operations with the tree in place and performed by moving tubing or drill pipe in or out of a well under pressure utilizing equipment specifically designed for that purpose, i.e., snubbing operations, shall include the following:

- (1) One set of pipe rams hydraulically operated, and
- (2) Two sets of stripper-type pipe rams hydraulically operated with spacer spool.

(g) An inside BOP or a spring-loaded, back-pressure safety valve and an essentially full-opening, work-string safety valve in the open position shall be maintained on the rig floor at all times during well-workover operations when the tree is removed or during well-workover operations with the tree installed and using small tubing as the work string. A wrench to fit the work-string safety valve shall be readily available. Proper connections shall be readily available for inserting valves in the work string. The full-opening safety valve is not required for coiled tubing or snubbing operations.

[53 FR 10690, Apr. 1, 1988, as amended at 54 FR 50616, Dec. 8, 1989; 58 FR 49928, Sept. 24, 1993. Redesignated at 63 FR 29479, May 29, 1998]

§ 250.616 Blowout preventer system testing, records, and drills.

(a) Prior to conducting high-pressure tests, all BOP system components shall be successfully tested to a low pressure of 200 to 300 psi. Ram-type BOP's, related control equipment, including the choke and kill manifolds, and safety valves shall be successfully tested to the rated working pressure of the BOP equipment or as otherwise approved by the District Supervisor. Variable bore rams shall be pressure-tested against all sizes of drill pipe in the well excluding drill collars. Surface BOP systems shall be pressure tested with water. The annular-type BOP shall be successfully tested at 70 percent of its rated working pressure or as otherwise approved by the District Supervisor. Each valve in the choke and kill manifolds shall be successfully, sequentially pressure tested to the ram-type BOP test pressure.

(b) The BOP systems shall be tested at the following times:

- (1) When installed;
- (2) At least every 7 days, alternating between control stations and at staggered intervals to allow each crew to operate the equipment. If either control system is not functional, further operations shall be suspended until the nonfunctional, system is operable. The test every 7 days is not required for blind or blind-shear rams. The blind or blind-shear rams shall be tested at least once every 30 days during operation. A longer period between blowout preventer tests is allowed when there is a stuck pipe or pressure-control operation and remedial efforts are being performed. The tests shall be conducted as soon as possible and before normal operations resume. The reason for postponing testing shall be entered into the operations log.

(3) Following repairs that require disconnecting a pressure seal in the assembly, the affected seal will be pressure tested.

(c) All personnel engaged in well-workover operations shall participate in a weekly BOP drill to familiarize crew members with appropriate safety measures.

(d) The lessee shall record pressure conditions during BOP tests on pressure charts, unless otherwise approved